

Amendment to the Crop Situation Update June 2011

Cereal Food Balance 2010-2011 amended to reflect the preliminary results of the National Population Census 2011 released by the Central Bureau of Statistics

November 2011



MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND COOPERATIVES



WORLD FOOD PROGRAMME



FOOD AND AGRICULTURE ORGANIZATION

INTRODUCTION

This amendment has been prepared to reflect the preliminary results of the 2011 National Population Census (NPC), released by the Central Bureau of Statistics in September 2011. According to the preliminary results, the population of Nepal has reached 26,620,809 with a population growth rate of 1.4 percent per annum.

Updated population figures have an impact on the edible cereal requirements for Nepal (191 kg per person per year on average), which have been calculated based on the original population count of the 2001 NPC, using an estimated population growth rate of 2.25 percent per annum.

Due to the lower than estimated population number and the resulting lower edible cereal requirements, the amended national food balance situation shows a larger surplus for the crop year 2010/11 than previously published in the Crop Situation Update (June 2011): 443.1 thousand MT against 110 thousand MT.

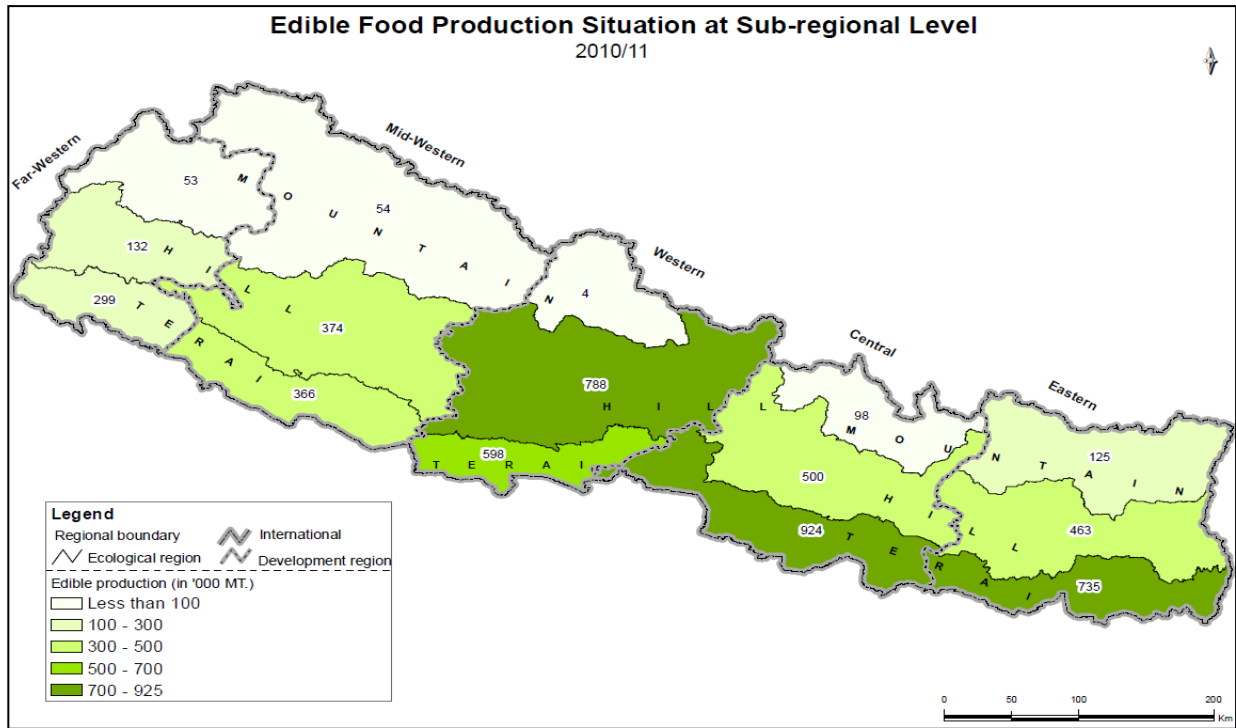
AMENDED NATIONAL FOOD BALANCE SITUATION 2010/11

Nepal has experienced cereal food deficit in four of the past six years (since 2005/06) and the highest food deficit of 330 thousand MT was reported in 2009/10. In contrast, the country has a total of 443.1 thousand MT edible food surplus (9% of requirement) in 2010/11.

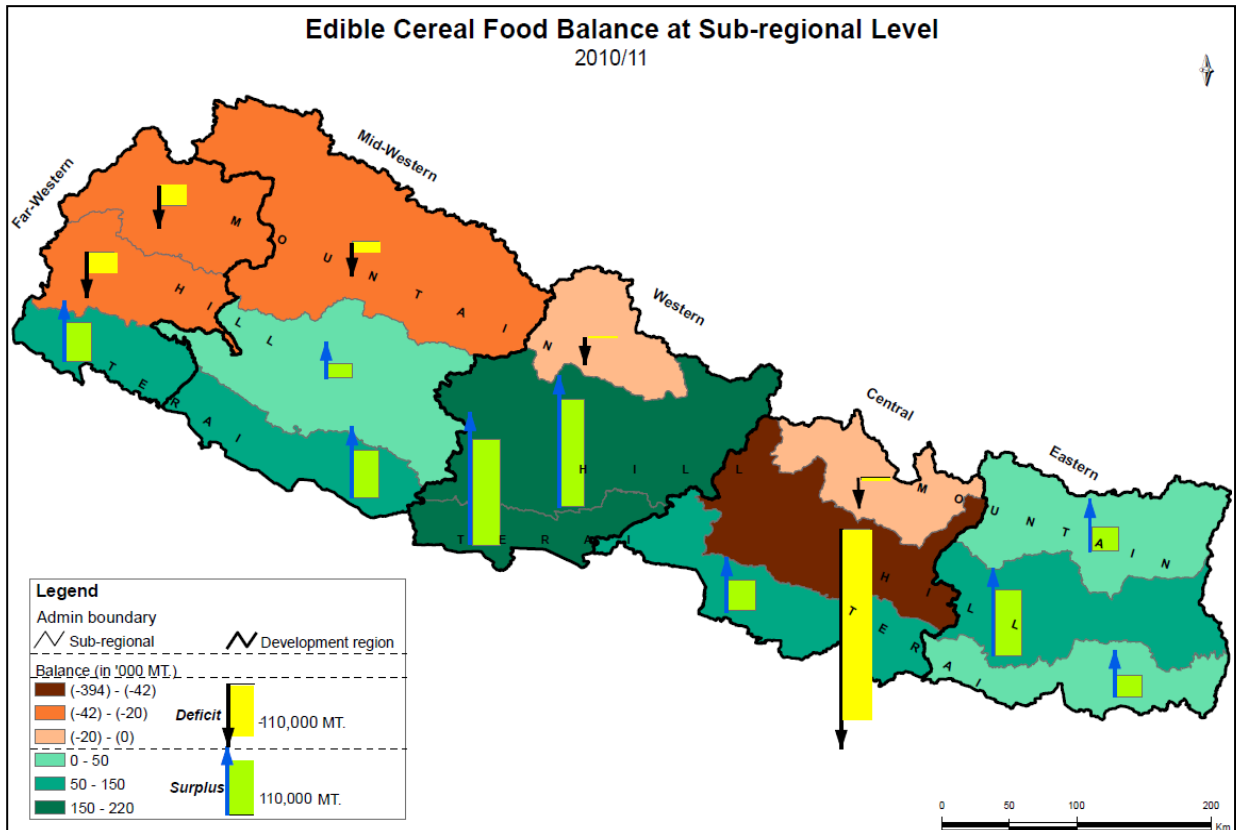
Despite a record-high surplus in 2010/11, the amended cereal food balance shows that 33 out of 75 districts are still food deficit (see Annex Table 1), many of which are found in the Mid- and the Far-Western hills and mountains where road/market access is limited. Some *Terai* districts such as Sunsari, Saptari and Siraha are also among the food deficit ones because of high population and relatively low production. Kathmandu has experienced a largest deficit of 305,000 MT due to a large population of urban consumers.

At sub-regional levels, mountain districts in the Mid and the Far western regions are in the deficit by 15.8 thousands MT and 38.4 thousands MT (22% and 42% of the requirements) respectively and hill districts in the Far western region are in the deficit by 41.6 thousands MT (24% of the requirements). The highest deficit of 393.5 thousands MT (44% of the requirement) is found in the hill districts of the Central region, which is due to the high urban population in the Kathmandu valley districts. All the three sub-regions in the Eastern development region are in a surplus situation (see Annex Table 1 and Maps 1 & 2).

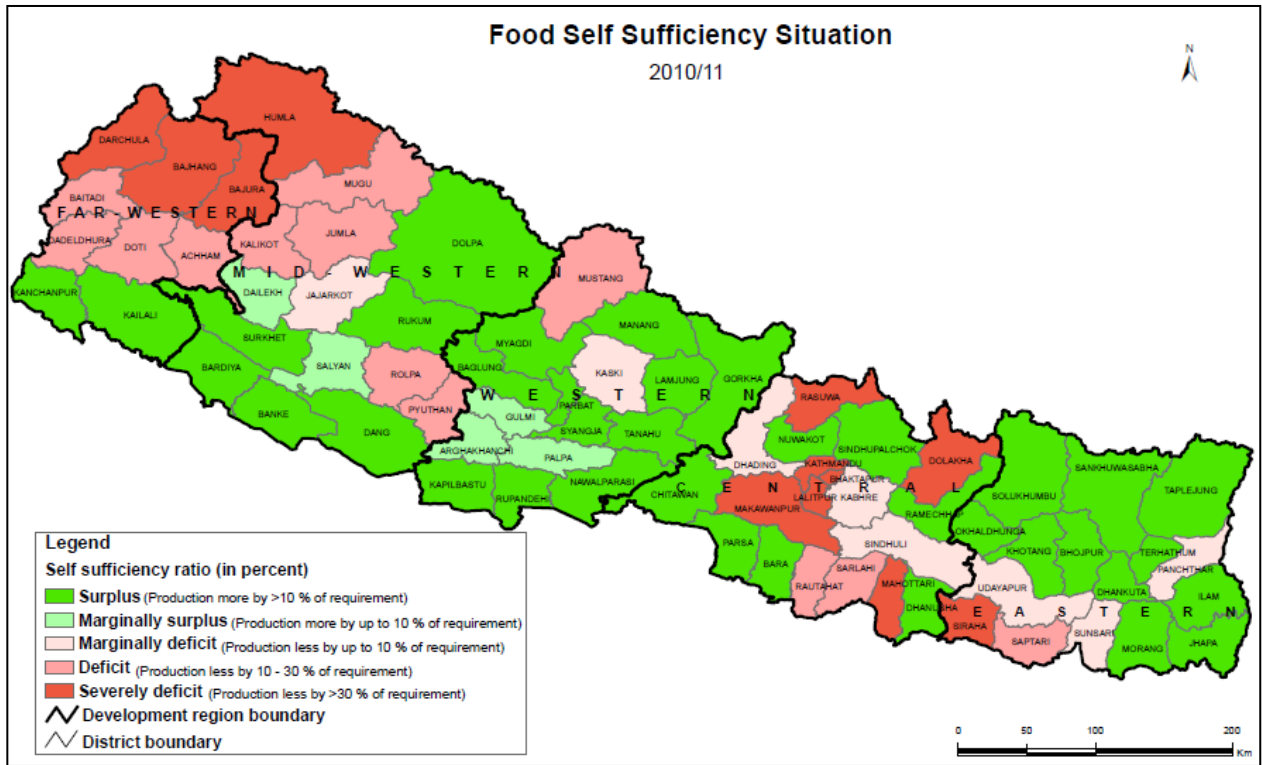
Map 1: Edible Food Production Situation at Sub-regional Level



Map 2: Edible Cereal Food Balance at Sub-regional Level



Map 3: Food self-sufficiency situation



Source: Ministry of Agriculture and Cooperatives, 2010/11